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FIRST NAMED INVENTOR ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. APPLICATION NO. FILING DATE CONFIRMATION NO. 01/11/2000 MICHAEL DELK 1780/OF908 09/481,120 **EXAMINER** 10/06/2003 DARBY & DARBY SIRMONS, KEVIN C 805 THIRD AVENUE ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER NEW YORK, NY 10022 3763

DATE MAILED: 10/06/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Application No. O9/481,120 DELK ET AL. Examiner Art Unit Examiner Art Unit Ferriod for Reply A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE of This communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address - Period for Reply A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION. Extensions time may be available under the proximise of 37 CPR 1.35(d), in no event, however, may a raply be timely filed. If the period for reply specified above is less time hirty (30) days, a reply vibin the statisticy printed with part and the proximism of thing (30) Month 15 from eventile of the statistic printed with part and statistics printed with part and united the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any search part time adjustment. Sea 37 CPR 1.374(d). Status 1) Seasonsive to communication(s) filed on 14 July 2003. 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final. 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under Ex parte Quayle, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213. Disposition of Claims 4) Claim(s) 12-16 is/are pending in the application. 4a) Of the above claim(s) is/are withdrawn from consideration. 5) Claim(s) is/are allowed. 5) Claim(s) is/are objected to by the Examiner. 10 The graving(s) filed on is/are: a) cocepted or bi objected to by the Examiner. Application Papers 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner. 11 For proposed drawing correction filed on is/are. a) objected to by the Examiner. 12 For administration of the printity documents have been received in Application No. 13 Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f). 3 Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a) (d) or a provisional application. 14) Checknowledgment is made of a claim for for	. ŧ						
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a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received. 15)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.							
Attachment(s)			_				
1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 6) Other:	2) 🔲 Notic	ce of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	5)	Notice of Informal			

Application/Control Number: 09/481,120

Art Unit: 3763

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 12-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kullas U.S. Pat. No. 6,436,072 in view of Dennehey et al 4,201,406.

Kullas discloses a pumping unit (1) having an inlet (end connected to 10) and an outlet (end connected to 12), a handpiece (16) and tubing (12) connecting the outlet of said pumping unit to said handpiece, said pumping unit including a support (18) for the pumping unit, a flexible tube (10) connecting at one end to said inlet, and a spike (14) connected to the other end of said flexible tube (note: The spike of Kullas is fully capable of being adapted to penetrate a fitting in said irrigation bag. Further, applicant has not claimed a fitting.) Kullas does not disclose a lubricant (silicone) coating on the spike. Dennehey discloses a lubricating material that may be applied to the spike (col. 3, lines 5-20). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the spike of Kullas with a lubricant as taught by Dennehey so that the spike can be easily inserted into the irrigation bag (col. 3, lines 5-20). As to claims 15-16, (fig. 1).

As to claim 14, it is the examiner's position that a minimal portion of the spike can be coated with a lubricant thus enabling the spike to remain in frictional engagement with the fitting to support the weight of the spike and the flexible tubing. However, if one of ordinary skill in

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the art would disagree, then it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the spike of Kullas with the spike (22) as taught by Dennehey for enabling the tube to be coupled to the irrigation bag with a snug pressure fit thus supporting the weight of the spike and flexible tubing (col. 3, lines 25-29 and fig. 1).

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 12-16 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claims 21-23 have been canceled from co-pending application 09/688,178. Therefore, the double patenting rejection has been withdrawn.

Conclusion

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event,

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however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communication from the examiner should be directed to Kevin C. Sirmons whose telephone number is (703) 306-5410. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Thursday from 6:30 am to 4:00 pm. The examiner can also be reached on alternate Fridays.

Kevin C. Sirmons Patent Examiner

10/1/03

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